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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Memorandum

Date

March 7, 1994

From

Chemistry Review Branch, HFS-247

Subject

GRP 3G0287: Beatrice Foods. Gum Arabic as a Stabilizer in Alcoholic Beverage Mixes. Submission of 1-11-94.

To

Direct Additives Branch, HFS-217
Attn: R. L. Martin, Ph.D.

REFY

This petition seeks affirmation of GRAS status for gum arabic when used at levels up to 20% as a stabilizer in alcoholic beverage mixes. In the Division of Chemistry and Physics (now CRB) memorandum of 11-21-83 (Modderman), exposure was estimated at 0.5 g/p/d, based on information supplied by the petitioner. Our 10-25-93 memorandum suggested that Beatrice be asked to supply current data concerning the intake of beverages likely to contain gum arabic if this petition results in the promulgation of a regulation. The current submission contains this data, requested in your letter of 11-2-93.

The data supplied by the petitioner show that in the ten years since our previous estimate, the intake of alcoholic beverages in the manner in which gum arabic is expected to be employed has increased by less than two-fold. Assuming that gum arabic is used between 12 and 20% in all beverages, exposure would be approximately 0.75 g/p/d, an increase of 0.25 g/p/d over that in the 11-21-83 memorandum.

We have no further questions on this petition.

Michael DiNovi, Ph.D.